

109TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2266

To establish a fellowship program for the congressional hiring of disabled veterans.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 9, 2006

Mr. SANTORUM introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

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## A BILL

To establish a fellowship program for the congressional hiring of disabled veterans.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Disabled Veterans Fel-  
5       lowship Act of 2006”.

6       **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL FELLOWSHIPS.**

7       (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Senate and  
8       the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall establish  
9       a program to encourage the personal offices of Members  
10      of Congress, committee offices, and leadership offices to

1 hire disabled veterans for temporary staff positions under  
2 the fellowship program established by this Act.

3 (b) EMPLOYMENT OF FELLOWS.—A disabled veteran  
4 congressional fellow hired under this Act shall be em-  
5 ployed—

6 (1) at a level of responsibility commensurate  
7 with the abilities of the fellow;

8 (2) at a level of compensation appropriate to  
9 the level of responsibility but not in excess of the  
10 level of compensation authorized for other com-  
11 parable employees of the Senate and the House of  
12 Representatives; and

13 (3) for not more than a 12-month period of  
14 time.

15 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

16 In this Act:

17 (1) DISABLED VETERAN.—The term “disabled  
18 veteran” means a veteran with a service-connected  
19 disability (as defined in section 101 of title 38,  
20 United States Code) which was incurred or aggra-  
21 vated in the line of duty during Operation Iraqi  
22 Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom or during  
23 such other operations as may be designated under  
24 regulations promulgated jointly by the Secretary of  
25 the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Represent-

atives in consultation with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

(2) DISABLED VETERAN CONGRESSIONAL FELLOW.—The term “disabled veteran congressional fellow” means a fellow in the office of a Member of the Senate or the House of Representatives or the office of a committee or joint committee of the Senate or the House of Representatives or leadership office of the Senate or the House of Representatives who is a disabled veteran.

(3) MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—The term “Member of the House of Representatives” includes a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress.

**SEC. 4. EXCLUSION OF DISABLED VETERAN CONGRESSIONAL FELLOW FROM BUDGET OF EMPLOYING OFFICE AND LIMITS ON NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES OF EMPLOYING OFFICE.**

(a) TREATMENT UNDER OFFICE BUDGET.—

(1) SEPARATE AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2007 and each succeeding fiscal year from the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives or the contingent fund of the Senate such amounts as may be necessary for the salaries

1 and related expenses of disabled veteran congres-  
2 sional fellows during the fiscal year.

3 (2) EXCLUSION OF AMOUNTS APPROPRIATED  
4 FROM GENERAL BUDGETS OF EMPLOYING OF-  
5 FICES.—To the extent that amounts are appro-  
6 priated pursuant to this Act for the salary and re-  
7 lated expenses of a disabled veteran congressional  
8 fellow for a fiscal year, such amounts shall not be  
9 paid from, and shall be excluded in determining the  
10 balance of—

11 (A) in the case of a disabled veteran con-  
12 gressional fellow of the office of a Member of  
13 the House of Representatives, the Member's  
14 Representational Allowance for that office for  
15 the year; and

16 (B) in the case of a disabled veteran con-  
17 gressional fellow of any other office, any ac-  
18 count of the Senate or the House of Represent-  
19 atives from which the salaries and related ex-  
20 penses of employees of the office is paid during  
21 the year.

22 (b) EXCLUSION FROM LIMITS ON NUMBER OF POSI-  
23 TIONS.—A disabled veteran congressional fellow shall be  
24 excluded in determining the number of employees of the  
25 office which employs the fellow for purposes of—

1           (1) in the case of the office of a Member of the  
2       House of Representatives, section 104 of Public Law  
3       104–186 (2 U.S.C. 92); and

4           (2) in the case of any other office, any applica-  
5       ble provision of law or any rule or regulation which  
6       imposes a limit on the number of employees of the  
7       office.

8   **SEC. 5. RULES GOVERNING DISABLED VETERAN CONGRES-**  
9                           **SIONAL FELLOWS.**

10       (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Senate and  
11   the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall implement  
12   rules establishing fellowships for disabled veterans for  
13   service in the personal offices of Members of Congress,  
14   committee, offices, and leadership offices.

15       (b) CONTENT.—The rules promulgated by this sec-  
16   tion shall provide that the compensation of 1 disabled vet-  
17   eran fellow for each personal office or any Member of Con-  
18   gress and 1 disabled veteran fellow for each committee of-  
19   fice and 1 disabled veteran fellow for each leadership office  
20   shall not count against the staff allowance of that Member  
21   of Congress, committee, or office.

22       (c) AUTHORIZATIONS.—The Architect of the Capitol  
23   shall make whatever reasonable accommodation is nec-  
24   essary to provide access to disabled veteran fellows hired  
25   pursuant to the provisions of this Act.

1 **SEC. 6. COMPENSATION.**

2       Any compensation received by a disabled veteran pur-  
3 suant to this Act shall not affect the benefits otherwise  
4 available to that disabled veteran under other provisions  
5 of law.

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